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spirillum Obermeieri, an organism formerly regarded as a bacterium, but recently relinquished to the zoologists. In the Grand Canary 13 cases were reported in the consular sanitary report for the week ending May 6. The disease is not uncommon in India and Syria, and in April there were cases in Mexico. It has not appeared in the United States since 1869, when there were epidemics in New York and Philadelphia. In America relapsing fever was first seen in 1844 at Philadelphia.

UNITED STATES.

[Reports to the Surgeon-General, Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.]

Investigation of epidemic smallpox in Morgan County, W. Va.

Passed Assistant Surgeon McClintic reports, May 25, as follows:

In compliance with instructions contained in Bureau letter of the 17th instant, directing me to proceed to Berkeley Springs, Great Cacapon, and Paw Paw, Morgan County, W. Va., for the purpose of assisting in settling the diagnosis of a disease existing in that vicinity and supposed to be smallpox, I have the honor to submit the following report in reference thereto:

I arrived at Berkeley Springs on the 17th instant about 2 p. m., and at once called on the secretary of the local board of health. In consulting with him it was learned that the eruptive disease in question prevailed not at Berkeley Springs, but principally in and around Great Cacapon and in the vicinity of Paw Paw. I proceeded by conveyance the same afternoon to Great Cacapon, where I was met by a member of the State board of health and the local physician who has had charge of most of the cases.

Together we visited a case in a man who had had the disease about 8 days. We unanimously agreed that the disease was a case of smallpox of the discreet variety. The patient was covered with a pustular eruption over his whole body, including his mouth, palms of hands, and soles of feet. He gave a history of having had practically every symptom of smallpox, and particularly the pain in head and back, fever, and the eruption which had passed through the different stages to the formation of pustules, some of which were umbilicated.

The member of the State board of health could not remain longer, but in company with the local physician I saw other cases.

The history of the disease in the next family visited was about as follows: The father was taken sick with an eruptive disease which, at the time I saw him, 13 days after the onset, still showed the marks of the eruption over his entire body. Three days before my visit and 10 days after he was taken sick one of his children developed the same disease, and when I saw the child the rash was coming out. One day before my visit and 12 days after the father was taken sick his wife and only other child were taken with pain in the back and head, nausea, and vomiting, fever, etc., which they both still had at the time of my visit. The rash had not yet appeared. There is no doubt that all 4 were mild cases of smallpox.

I saw 8 or 10 other cases in all stages of convalescence that were unquestionably mild cases of smallpox.

The disease appeared in Great Cacapon about the last of December, 1904, and it is thought was brought there by some Italian laborers who were employed in constructing a railroad on the opposite side of the Potomac River, about half a mile distant from Great Cacapon.

Since the disease made its appearance in Great Cacapon about 200 cases have been reported. It has been transmitted from house to house along the Great Cacapon River for a distance of 6 or 7 miles, and along the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad almost to Pawpaw, a distance of about 20 miles. No cases have yet been reported in Pawpaw.

The principal objection to the establishment of the diagnosis of smallpox came from the people who think that because there have been no deaths the disease is not smallpox. Consequently there has been strong objection to vaccination, as many of the people preferred the disease to being vaccinated. However, this objection is on the decrease, and I think now that most of the nonimmune population will submit to vaccination.

The disease has not appeared in Berkeley Springs, which is 4 miles distant from Great Cacapon, the two places being separated by the Great Cacapon Mountain. There is not a great deal of communication between the two places, as the road is very rough and inaccessible. Berkeley Springs is the county seat of Morgan County. The inhabitants of Berkeley Springs are particularly apprehensive of its appearance there on account of the damage it will do to the place as a summer resort.

The cases at Great Cacapon are quarantined at their homes, and a guard has been placed on top of the mountain to prevent communication between Berkeley Springs and Great Cacapon.

Vaccination was strongly recommended as a prophylaxis.

INSPECTION SERVICE, MEXICAN BORDER.

Inspection at Eagle Pass, Tex.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Hume reports as follows:

	Week ended May 21, 1905.
Persons inspected on trains	117
Persons held	2

Inspection at Laredo, Tex.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Hamilton reports as follows:

Week ended May 20, 1905:

Passenger trains from Mexico inspected, 14; persons on passenger trains from Mexico inspected, 647; immigrants on passenger trains from Mexico inspected, 40; immigrants vaccinated upon entry from Mexico, 17; persons refused entry or detained for reason of being from a suspicious port, 1.